ORIGINAL

May 29, 2003

ALL FCC Commissioners   (Please copy for all, thank-you)
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Commissioners: EX ᴘ   ᴛᴇ FILED

I heard Chairman Powell's interview this morning on my FREE NPR radio station!
Thank-you. However, it sounds like the television situation that I am in is one her (and
you) may not be aware of. We have one cable company in Benicia California (Comcast),
with a bare minimum service charge of about $15.00 a month. This allows you to see the
local channel, which covers city council and school board meetings and posts upcoming
events and broadcasts if our refinery in town has a spill. If you don't pay for cable you
DON'T GET THE LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE. Unlike radio, the television waves are
TOO WEAK, believe me I've tried with an antennae and it just does not work. **Also,
without signing up for and paying for service, I can get only one station (a local
NBC) and NOT PBS out of San Francisco. Local news is important because it
allows people to be aware of current local debates, terror threats and their
implications (what is closed or impacted locally) without having to PAY A CABLE
COMPANY for it. This should be FREE PUBLIC INFORMATION, and removing
regulations and protections, minimal as they are at this time, will only make this
worse.**

PLEASE maintain current FCC laws protecting the American public from further
consolidation of our media. This means **maintaining broadcast multiple ownership
rules at the same level, restricting cross-ownership of broadcast stations and
newspapers and ensuring multiple ownerships of radio stations in local markets.**
Also, I believe cable companies should be required to provide free coverage of LOCAL
news without service fees.

**Please, use your positions to do the right thing for this country by voting to prevent
further media and broadcast consolidation.**

Sincerely,

Nancy Yates
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